

REMARKS

The Applicant petitions to correct a priority claim for the above-mentioned US national stage patent application. The Applicant requests that the priority claim be amended to read "6063 8 July 1999 LB" and "PQ 2579 6 September 1999 AU" rather than the incorrect combination of "2183 7 July 1999 LB" and "PQ 2579 6 September 1999 AU." The undersigned was informed by the US/RO that the proper procedure for rectifying incorrect PCT priority claims in an application that has advanced to the US national stage is to correct the claim with the International Bureau, at which time the International Bureau would notify the US Receiving Office of the correction of the priority claim.

Following this advice, the undersigned pursued priority correction with WIPO. WIPO advised that the only way to correct priority is with each national office, which has been successful for this case with the Australian and European patent offices. Thus, we petition herein for correction of the priority claim with the U.S. National Office.

The undersigned has been informed by the representatives who prosecuted the international application that while the correct priority documents were filed with the International Bureau (including copies of the patent certificate for 6063 in Arabic and its English translation), the incorrect claim was made on the PCT application transmittal documents. The error in priority was not discovered by the Applicant or the International Bureau prior to the advancement of the application to the national stage.

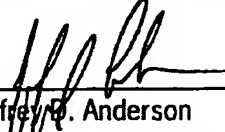
Therefore, in light of the response from WIPO, we petition to correct the priority claim with the USPTO. In support of this petition, a new Declaration is attached that includes the correct priority claim and is signed by the inventor. Of note is that the original priority claim under 35 U.S.C. § 1.371 to International Patent Application PCT/IB99/01929 was properly perfected and that correction to the claim to one foreign application is sought.

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No new matter has been added as a result of the above. Applicants believe that no fee is due as a result of the above amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.312. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees to Deposit Account No. 13-2490.

Respectfully submitted,

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